



COMPASSVALE SECONDARY SCHOOL 康柏中学

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School Motto: *Realising the Star Within*

1 Apr 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Highlights of School Programmes/Events in Term 1

- **Friday's morning assembly engagement** – in addition to our Structured Reading Programme based on current affairs and run by EL and CCE depts alternately every Wednesday, our Student Development Team, Character & Citizenship Education (CCE) dept and EL dept take turns to engage all students on positive education, school value of the month and whole school approach to effective communication respectively. Students are also given opportunities to share their learning, experience and reflection on stage so as to have more student participation at morning assembly.
- **Commemoration of Total Defence Day** - In line with the theme 'Together We Keep Singapore Strong', our CCE Department organised a series of activities which included a Home Team SG Secure Mobile Exhibition; assembly programme on terrorism, SG Secure Apps and fake news; playing of the game 'Guardians of the City' facilitated by NCC cadets; exhibition booths on the 5 pillars of Total Defence set up by uniformed groups CCA; and first aid lessons, games and quizzes conducted by CCE Student ambassadors. CCE lessons covered the 6th pillar of Total Defence – Digital Defence launched by MOE this year and reading of related articles in a special edition of the Straits Time IN publication.
- **Chinese New Year Celebration** – As a tradition, the school and PSG co-hosted 40 elderly residents from Henderson Heights again this year to celebrate CNY together with the staff and students. The elderly guests enjoyed a sumptuous abalone porridge breakfast co-sponsored by our Western food canteen stallholder and SAC Chairman. Our PSG also distributed hampers and hongbaos sponsored and prepared by PSG members to all the elderly guests while our SAC Chairman presented personal hongbaos to each of them as well.
- **STAR Programme** – Guided by the theme '*Seek Out Your Strengths*', the Sec 1s had a 2D1N camp in school going through personal profiling, The Leadership Challenge Workshop and Social Skills Training of making positive self-statement and giving compliments. The students set up tents on the school field themselves for the overnight stay under a starry night. The Sec 2s had a 3D2N adventure camp at PA-Water Venture (Sembawang), where they learnt camp craft, worked on problem solving activities and participated in orienteering on land and raft building in the waters. The outdoor experience helped them '*Adopt An Enterprising Spirit*' and develop resilience. The Sec 3s '*Take Responsibility*' in charting their post-secondary pathways through attending Advanced Elective Modules at various polytechnics (Express & N(A)) and Elective module at Shatec (NT), and discovering their interest in specific fields. The modules include hospitality/tourism, aerospace/aviation, design/modelling, smart devices/virtual reality, and culinary skills/pastry/bakery. Students signed up for the modules based on their interest in post-secondary courses and possible careers. Sec 4/5s went through the '*Ready for the World*' programme where they learnt about personal branding and interview skills, and visited post-secondary institutions to find out more about their courses. The programme culminated with a learning carnival named "The Ninja Warriors" where students undergo a series of challenges by applying problem solving and communication skills.
- **Health Promotion Board Tasty Meals Programme** – Our school has signed up for this programme to improve the quality and taste of food in our school canteen. A Food Bazaar run by MCI Group of Companies was held from 25 Feb to 1 Mar in our school to drive home the message that healthy food can also be tasty. Two food carts were set up in the canteen during first recess. Students got to try out different food (all halal-certified) every day and voted for their favourite food to be catered solely on Friday week. The next phase of the programme will include checking of current recipe of canteen vendors, providing the vendors with a recipe card and encouraging them to make changes, and launching of new meals with improved taste in Semester 2.

Highlights of Departmental Programmes in Term 1

- **Science** – 4 teams of Sec 3 students participated in the Shell STEM Challenge, where they developed ideas to solve the world's food, water and energy problems. After two rounds of rigorous judging on the teams' proposals and pitching their ideas to a panel of Shell judges, one team emerged amongst the top 5 finalists and will work with Shell to develop their prototype further, leading to the competition finals in term 3. Students also participated in the Innobit Challenge 2019 organised by PSB Academy, and worked on a prototype using micro:bit technology to assist Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) patients with physiotherapy in their homes.
- **Project Work (PW)** – As part of our Sec 1 PW focus on Zero Waste, all Sec 1 Exp/NA students were involved in a recyclables collection drive to help them gain a better understanding of waste management in Sengkang community, and to advocate the importance of community efforts towards waste management. The students went round 9 HDB blocks in Compassvale Green Estate to distribute leaflets to residents, suggest to residents improvements on managing waste and collect recyclables such as papers, plastic, clothing and e-waste. A total of 1260kg of papers and 20kg of clothing were collected.
- **Mathematics** - Fun with Math Programme comprises CVSS Sudoku Challenge, ArithmetiQ, Fun Math Problems and Quizzes. In term 1, the dept organised the annual Sudoku Challenge. Every student in each class had the opportunity to participate in the qualifying round; the top two students from each class with best timing and accuracy were selected and a total of 80 students competed in the ultimate challenge, with Top 10 prizes each in lower and upper Secondary categories.
- **English** - The Reading Star! Programme has been rolled out to Sec 1-3 students to introduce students to literary texts and to promote the joy of reading. Students are given Reading Star! Challenge Cards to encourage them to read and they stand to receive tokens for their efforts, either individually or as a class. Students were treated to a Language and Literacy Appreciation Assembly Programme - The Upper Sec students were enthralled by award-winning American author Eliot Schrefer's sharing on his research at ape sanctuaries in Congo while the Lower Sec students were treated to the creative and engaging promotion of the EL Reading Programme and poetry showcase by their peers. Selected Sec 3 Literature elective students and Drama CCA members had the opportunity to watch *Matilda the Musical* by the Royal Shakespeare Company.
- **Mother Tongue** – As part of our Lower Secondary CL Oracy Programme, Sec 1E students attended Speech and Drama lessons conducted by Hokkien Huay Kuan while Sec 1NA/NT SBB students attended a workshop on "Developing Oracy Skills through Comics Drawing". Sec 2E students attended a Journalism workshop while Sec 2 NA/NT SBB students attended an oratorical and debating skills workshop.
- **Humanities – Sec 2 students visited** the Former Ford Factory to view the 'Surviving the Japanese Occupation: War and its Legacies' and participated in the remembrance ceremony at Kranji War Memorial. Sec 2NT students went through our EBS Challenge conducted by Sec 3NT students, where they learnt about the work of some prominent Singaporean entrepreneurs, key

concepts on hospitality, retail, travel and tourism industry through games and quizzes. The Sec.3s learnt to work together in conceptualising and preparing the games for the event.

- **Craft & Technology** – Selected Music students attended an innovative and interdisciplinary production at Huayi Chinese Festival of Arts 2019, under our partnership with Keppel Corporation on their outreach programme of Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay.
- **Infocomm Technology** – All Sec 2s had their Home-Based Learning Day on 12 March with the objective to learn independently at home at their own pace. Students completed their assignments on the MOE's Student Learning Space, which included videos and timely feedback on their learning.
- **Character & Citizenship Education** - In conjunction with Singapore Bicentennial Commemoration, all students watched a Chingay Assembly Programme which showcase our nation's journey in multi-culturalism. To embrace diversity and celebrate our differences, a bonding session was organised to welcome our Sec 1 International Students with their Singaporean buddies. During the session, students learned how to make Indian flower garlands and Malay bunga manggar and tasted different types of local tea and Malay food. They were also treated to the 47th annual Chingay Parade based on the theme "Dreams Funtasia (Bicentennial Edition)".
- **Values-in-Action** – Sec 4/5 students initiated their Service Learning Projects by planning, preparing and delivering goodie bags/hampers comprising food and basic daily necessities, and specially crafted cards to the elderly and disadvantaged in our community. The projects benefitted about 350 residents in our partner organisations - Bright Hill Evergreen Home, Sunlove Home, Ling Kwang Home & Bethesda Care – Senior Activity Centre (Compassvale Crescent).
- **Student leadership development** – About 200 students have been selected as student leaders to serve in the Student Council or their respective CCA. All class leaders were briefed on their roles and expectations and underwent leadership training and work planning session in Jan and Feb.

Highlights of School Achievements/Awards achieved or announced in Term 1/2019

- **Aeronautics Club** – Annual Singapore Amazing Flying Machine Competition [498 teams, more than 1700 participants] – 8 awards in various categories, including Championship Award (1st Placing among more than 150 teams) in Unpowered Gliders category [Tan Jin Ying 3E3, Chen Xuanyin 3E1, Raven Ho 3E3, Shirlyn Foo 3E3], and Championship Award (3rd Placing, the only secondary school team among all other polytechnics and university teams) in Semi-Autonomous/Autonomous Flight category [Koh Tze Wang 2E2, Khiew An Kai 4E2, Valerie Lee 4E3].
- **Infocomm (PA/AVA/Robotics) Club** – Our team [Tan Zheng Kiat Amos 4E4, Lim Yu Sheng 4E4 and Tarakeshwar s/o Segaran 4N1] emerged Champions in the Innovation, Design & Engineering (IDE) Robotics Competition organised by Nullspace (2nd year in a row). They beat more than 30 teams from School of Science & Technology, Anglican High, Nan Chiau High etc. Students had to programme their robot to complete as many quests as possible within a given time using the LEGO Mindstorms platform.
- **Red Cross Youth** – 2019 Gold Excellence Unit Award (based on 2018 year of assessment) – 14th consecutive Gold since 2005
- **NPCC** – 2019 Gold Unit Overall Proficiency Award (based on 2018 year of assessment)
- **Girl Guides** – 2019 Gold Puan Noor Aishah Award (based on 2018 year of assessment)
- **Boys Brigade** – J M Fraser award not announced yet. Best Boy Award 2019 (S P Chua Medal) – SGT Jaden Tan Zi En (Sec 4E3) [This is a national award capped at one awardee for each BB unit if the nominee fulfils the selection criteria set by BB HQ]
- **Badminton** – Entered Round 2 of North Zone National School Games for both B Div Boys/Girls and C Div Boys
- **Basketball** – Entered Round 2 of North Zone National School Games for B Div Boys
- Chin Jian Guang (2016/4E4) – Republic Poly Diploma in Sports Coaching (Diploma /Module Pirzes, Ngee Ann Kongsi Scholarship)
- Nurismah Dewi Binti Ismail (2017/5N1) – Nanyang Poly Diploma in Sustainable Architectural Design Director's List
- 2018 GCE 'A' Level results – Neo Chee Kiat Glemen, 2016/4E5 (6 distinctions), Darryl Ee Wei Jun, 2016/4E5 (5 distinctions), Lim Teng Hong, 2016/4E5 (4 distinctions), Poh Shao Yu, 2016/4E4 (3 distinctions) [All Anderson-Serangoon Junior College students]

Good deeds by our students - Rahat Sajjad (Sec 3E3) found returned a lost wallet to the customer service counter at Waterway Point. The owner offered a \$50 reward but she declined. The owner wrote to the school to compliment her honesty and good deed. Phua Yan Bing (Sec 3E4) found a lost handphone in Rivervale Mall and promptly returned to the owner's parent. The parent wrote to the school to compliment her honesty and kind gesture. The students were complimented for their good deeds at morning assembly.

Upcoming School Programmes/Events in Term 2/2019

- **MOE ExCEL Fest (28-29 May) / Teachers Conference (27-29 May)** – Our school will have an exhibition booth at this biennial event organised by MOE to showcase innovative teaching practices in schools. We will be showcasing our "Teacher-developed App to promote NT students' reading competency" by our Malay Language teachers, which won a Bronze MOE Innergy Award last year. There are only 32 schools selected for the exhibition and we are the only school from our school cluster. The event will be held at Suntec City Convention Centre and open to the public. Our teachers from the CCE dept will also be presenting a paper on 'Connecting Students' Learning Experiences with Education and Career Guidance' at the annual Teachers Conference held at the same venue and share our practices of infusing ECG into core subject areas and motivating students in "Learn for Life".

Parent Engagement

- **Parents' Gateway** – The school has been using Parents' Gateway since Term 2 and has issued a letter on this to all parents on 27 Feb. Please remember to download the app on your handphones and refer to the letter for downloading details.
- **Parent Support Group** - Our PSG carried on with the tradition of co-hosting elderly guests at our CNY celebrations. PSG members collected gifts and prepared a hamper gift-pack for every guest. While many parents donated the gifts, others came to school on a Saturday morning to pack the hampers. Our PSG also organised a traditional welcome brunch for Sec 1 parents on 16 Feb. About 30 parents and their children turned up for the event and enjoyed the ice-breaking/family bonding games as well as a buffet lunch. Parents are welcome to join our PSG anytime (contact Ms Audrey Leong at ext 347 if you are keen). Thank you.

Mr Chia Chor Yann, Principal